

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02231 161128Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00  
NSC-05 OMB-01 EB-08 IGA-02 /075 W  
-----161412Z 109663 /40

R 160810Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2919  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 2231

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: NATO, OCON, MILI, AWACS  
SUBJECT: NATO AEW - FRG POSITION

REF: A. STATE 78248 DTG 072236Z APR 77. B. USNATO 2093  
DTG 090822Z APR 77. C. BONN 6339 DTG 131229Z APR 77.

1. PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS REF A, AND AS A FOLLOW UP TO DCM'S CONVERSATION WITH FRG CHARGE BOSS (REF B), AMBASSADOR CALLED ON PAULS IMMEDIATELY UPON LATTER'S RETURN FROM VACATION ON APRIL 14. PAULS' VIEWS ON NATO AEW TIMING WERE GENRALLY CONSISTENT WITH THE INFORMATION GENERAL BRANDT PROVIDED TO EMBASSY BONN POLITICAL COUNSELOR (REF C).

2. PAULS SAID FOUR QUESTIONS HAVE OCCURRED TO HIS AUTHORITIES; THESE WILL HAVE TO BE ANSWERED BEFORE ANY DECISIONS CAN BE TAKEN:

A. CAPABILITY OF NIMROD. WHAT COVERAGE WILL IT PROVIDE? WILL IT BE ABLE TO COVER NORWAY? PAULS SAID THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS, AND TO DERIVE FROM THEIR ANSWERS THE NUMBER OF AWACS NEEDED, BEFORE THE FRG CAN MAKE A DECISION.  
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B. INTEROPERABILITY OF AWACS AND NIMROD. HOW WILL INTEROPERABILITY BE ACHIEVED, HOW MUCH WILL IT COST AND WHO WILL FINANCE IT? PAULS OPINED THAT HE UK WILL ASK NATO TO PAY THESE COSTS; A REQUEST THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT LOOK UPON FAVORABLY.

C. STATIONING OF AWACS. WHERE WILL THE NATO AIRCRAFT BE STATIONED? PAULS PARTIALLY ANSWERED BY SAYING THAT HE ASSUMED AWACS WOULD NOT BE STATIONED IN THE UK.

D. FRANCE. WILL THE FRENCH PARTICIPATE; IF SO, HOW?  
IF FRANCE WERE TO BUY SOME OF ITS OWN AWACS AIRCRAFT,  
WOULD IT PROVIDE ADEQUATE COVERAGE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN  
TO HELP REASSURE THE ITALIANS?

3. AMBASSADOR MADE THE POINT ON THE NEED FOR AN EARLY  
PROGRAM DECISION TO KEEP COSTS DOWN. PAULS UNDERSTOOD  
THE LOGIC OF THIS ARGUMENT AND PROMISED TO TALK ABOUT  
TIMING WITH STATE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHNELL AND  
REPORT BACK TO US AT AN EARLY DATE. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977NATO02231  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** A. STATE 78248 DTG 072236Z APR 77. B. USNATO 2093 DTG 090822Z APR 77. C. BONN 6339 DTG 131229Z APR 77.  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2666199  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009